



Funding Opportunity Announcement

Pilots & Collaborative

Translational & Clinical Studies Awards

June 4, 2018

The mission of the **Miami Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI)** is to improve the quality and efficacy of clinical and translational research, advance team science, and culturalize health sciences.

The Miami CTSI is now offering funding opportunities to support up to three scientifically-meritorious pilot projects that will advance translational, innovative and interdisciplinary research, and/or promote research oriented toward community and health disparities.

Purpose of the Pilot Awards

The Pilots funds are meant to support highly innovative, translational, interdisciplinary, and/or health disparities-oriented research proposals in any health-related field, and are expected to generate preliminary data for a peer-reviewed federal grant (e.g., NIH, NSF, DoD) submission, or as part of a funded mentored research career development award.

In alignment with its mission, the Miami CTSI will give priority to scientifically-meritorious projects that are (1) directly related to **health disparities and racial/ethnic minority health**, or addressing challenges in health areas that disproportionately affect racial/ethnic minorities, and/or (2), **multi-disciplinary projects** where the Principal Investigator and at least one of his/her collaborators are from different fields of expertise.

Anticipated Number of Awards, Funds Available & Award Period

Up to three awards of up to \$40,000 each (direct research costs only) will be granted.

The award period is for one year. The start date of the awards will be contingent upon the start date of the CTSI 2.0 award (to be announced at a later time). The research project must be completed in one year. No-Cost Extensions (NCE) will not be allowed.

Applicant Eligibility

All UM **full-time faculty** are eligible to apply to these awards. Jackson Health System and the Miami VA full time faculty may apply, with at least one full-time UM faculty collaborator. Eligibility criteria must be met as of date of submission. Residents, post-doctoral and clinical fellows are not eligible. Only new applications and first resubmissions to any UM internal award mechanism are allowed. Women and individuals from under-represented racial and ethnic groups are encouraged to apply.

Project Eligibility

The types of clinical and translational research supported by this program cover the T1 to T4 translational science spectrum (see inset, below). Basic research projects (T0) are not eligible. Examples of T1 to T4 projects are listed below:

- Preclinical studies that are directly relevant to human health and use human cells or other human biological materials, with the endpoint of identifying new therapies or biomarkers.



- Early bench to bedside research leading up to and including first-in-human and/or clinical proof of concept trials evaluating new drug treatments, medical devices and diagnostics.
- Community-based clinical research studies using human subjects, families, and/or communities for testing new treatments or interventions, assessing new health outcomes, etc.
- Studies of effectiveness and/or implementation and/or dissemination of clinical research findings in practice.
- Studies on the science of translational research, i.e., on methods and approaches that improve the process of conducting translational research.
- Studies that promote team science and address researchable health issues from the perspectives of multiple disciplines.

Deadlines and Award Timeline

Submission is a two-step process requiring both a **Letter of Intent (LOI)** and a **full application**. Based on the potential scientific merit of the proposed research presented in the LOI, applicants will be invited to submit their full application.

- LOI due: **June 25, 2018**.
- Full application (by invitation only) due: **July 30, 2018**.
- Funding decisions will be announced in September 2018.

Translational Science Spectrum (<https://ncats.nih.gov/translation/spectrum>)

T0: Basic Research Basic involves scientific exploration that can reveal fundamental mechanisms of biology, disease or behavior. Every stage of the translational research spectrum builds upon and informs basic research. NCATS scientists typically do not conduct basic research; however, insights gained from the Center's studies along the translational spectrum can inform basic research. **NOTE: Basic research projects are not eligible for this Pilot award program.**

T1: Pre-Clinical Research connects the basic science of disease with human medicine. During this stage, scientists develop model interventions to further understand the basis of a disease or disorder and find ways to treat it. Testing is carried out using cell or animal models of disease; samples of human or animal tissues; or computer-assisted simulations of drug, device or diagnostic interactions within living systems.

T2: Clinical Research includes studies to better understand a disease in humans and relate this knowledge to findings in cell or animal models; testing and refinement of new technologies in people; testing of interventions for safety and effectiveness in those with or without disease; behavioral and observational studies; and outcomes and health services research. The goal of many clinical trials is to obtain data to support regulatory approval for an intervention.

T3: Clinical Implementation involves the adoption of interventions that have been demonstrated to be useful in a research environment into routine clinical care for the general population. This stage also includes implementation research to evaluate the results of clinical trials and to identify new clinical questions and gaps in care.

T4: Public Health: In this stage of translation, researchers study health outcomes at the population level to determine the effects of diseases and efforts to prevent, diagnose and treat them. Findings help guide scientists working to assess the effects of current interventions and to develop new ones.

For additional details about this program and the submission, please refer to the Information & Instructions for Application guide available on the [Miami CTSI website](#). The application form for the LOI is available on the [Miami CTSI website and](#) on the [UM Funding Opportunities website](#).